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TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [MASS](#) [NATO](#) [AJ](#) [RU](#)
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON U.S. MISSILE DEFENSE TALKS WITH RUSSIA
DELIVERED TO AZERBAIJAN

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Classified By: AMBASSADOR DERSE FOR REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D).

(C) Ambassador Derse provided Deputy Foreign Minister Araz Azimov with a readout on the status of February 21 U.S.-Russian missile defense discussions, based on reftel. Azimov thanked Ambassador for the readout. Azimov again asked the Ambassador for the USG to provide a technical assessment of Gabala, specifically, what kind of technical upgrades may be necessary to Gabala and information on what capacity the USG may be interested in using Gabala. He was not specific in what capacity he thought that that USG would be interested in using Gabala if the Russians left it when their lease expires in 2012.
DERSE